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(Printed on the editorial page of the Clearfield Progress, June 10, 1966.)

"Located as we are near the headwaters of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, our role in the operation of the compact could be a very important one. It could involve, for instance, an effort to clean up tributary steams as well as the West Branch itself to remove the pollution that now exists. The effect of the Compact on the area remains to be seen, but it will be to our advantage if the legislatures of the three states and the Congress approve it next year."

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(Printed in the Lock Haven Express in February, 1967, as part of a story on a joint convention of the Vegetable Growers Association and the Pennsylvania Canners and Fieldmen's Association.)

". . .Reporting to the convention on land and water rights legislation enacted or pending in Pennsylvania, Mr. (Ken) Sorgen (president of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association) said that the proposed tri-state Susquehanna River Basin Pact has been rewritten in a form more acceptable to Pennsylvania farm organizations, which had objected to some of the original provisions. He said the present text of the pact, although not exactly what the farm organizations had in mind, does contain advantages to the basin area which outweighed any remaining disadvantages.

"The Vegetable Growers Association now supports a basin development."

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(From a letter from the Broome County Chamber of Commerce to New York Gov. Rockefeller, Dec. 7, 1966.)

"After careful study of the Compact Draft, it is our opinion that such a Compact is necessary in the wise conservation of all water resources of the Susquehanna Basin. We compliment the Advisory Committee on their thoroughness and careful analysis of the concerns of the signatory parties and the inhabitants of the basin. The terms of the Compact are fair, reasonable and necessary."

(From a column by Tom Cawley, Binghamton Press, June, 1966.)

"The men who wrote the compact that would set up a Susquehanna River Commission to undo the felonies that have been perpetrated on it (the river). . .are embarking on the job of persuading three legislatures and the Congress to make the commission an effective creature of law, with power to restore it as a valuable natural resource that means life to the 3,000,000 who live along it in America's biggest river basin that drains into the Atlantic Ocean. . .The thoughtlessness that has permitted the Susquehanna to deteriorate as a lifeline would be stopped by the actions of a commission with regulation power. The acts of capriciousness of the people who waste and defile would end. A firm hand is required and the Susquehanna River Commission would be the firm hand. . .Nobody would toss $100 bills out an office building window and let them blow away with the wind. That is what we do every time we use the Susquehanna, or any river, as a sewer, garbage dump or as a goose that lays golden eggs. Every thoughtful person should support the Interstate Advisory Committee on the Susquehanna River Basin's push to make the Susquehanna Commission a reality."

Copies of the compact draft, and other literature relating to its contents, may be obtained from the following:

Division of Conservation Education, Conservation Department, State Campus, Albany, N.Y.;

The Interstate Advisory Committee on the Susquehanna River Basin, 2101 N. Front St., Harrisburg, Pa.;

Department of Forests and Waters, P. O. Box 1467, Harrisburg, Pa.;

State Planning Department, State Office Building, 301 W. Preston St., Baltimore, Md.;

Department of Water Resources, State Office Building, Annapolis, Md.

WHO IS SAYING WHAT ABOUT THE COMPACT

Roughly speaking, there have been only two types of comments on the proposed Susquehanna River Basin Compact since it was published on June 9, 1966.

In one category are the questions. There have been hundreds of these, and some of them were challenging. But the Interstate Advisory Committee on the Susquehanna River Basin feels it has supplied satisfactory, informative and factual answers to all of them.

In the second category are the statements of support. There have been many of these, too. . . from influential p e o p l e, newspapers and organizations. It is a collection of these comments that we have printed here.

(Printed on the editorial page of the Lancaster New Era, June 15, 1966.)

"No opposition has been expressed to the formation of the compact, and any disadvantages which may arise apparently are far outweighed by the potential good the commission could do.

"The Susquehanna can no longer be taken for granted as a body of water which we can use, abuse or disregard as we see fit.

"The past decade has brought so rapid an increase in its uses — for power and recreation for instance — that it is easy to see how serious conflict might someday arise as to who can harness the river for what.

"Those who look ahead see the rising importance of the Susquehanna. . .

"We urge enactment by the Pennsylvania Legislature, so that setting up of the commission and start of its work can be effectuated at the earliest possible time."

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(Former Pennsylvania Gov. William W. Scranton in two separate talks at the Governor's Conference on Natural Beauty, Hershey, Pa., Sept. 12-13, 1966.)

"Please let me bring this (the proposed Susquehanna River Basin Compact) to your attention and think about it today and tomorrow. The Susquehanna River, its tributaries and its basin, makes up 46% of Pennsylvania. It is 21,000 square miles of our State and we are about to join in, if everybody is ready and willing, into a compact with Maryland and New York and the Federal Government for its conservation and its development. There isn't a single solitary thing coming up in the future with this State over which we have control — we don't have control over war and peace — which can be of greater importance than the future of all of you and everybody else in this State than this Compact. And more important, its implication. And we need the help and effort of wise people, of visionary people on this matter as greatly as we have ever had on anything that we have undertaken. And certainly our rivers and waterways need you."

". . .I know I'm going out of office pretty soon and I also know that a lot of people have come to the conclusion, because I made the statement about public office, that I would no longer be interested in government or anything that has to do with it, ever for the rest of my life. That isn't true. Maurice (Dr. Maurice K. Goddard, Pennsylvania Secretary of Forests and Waters) knows, for example, that I feel very strongly about this Susquehanna River Basin Commission and what it can accomplish if it's put into being, and how vital it is to Pennsylvania."

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(Printed in the Baltimore Sun, June 9, 1966, as part of a story on the compact.)

"(Former) Gov. (J. Millard) Tawes (of Maryland) gave his strong indorsement to the compact and urged its adoption by the 1967 Legislature.

"In a speech at yesterday's luncheon, he said well-planned development of the Susquehanna basin is 'vital to our growth and economic well-being.'"

(Susquehanna Inter-League Council, League of Women Voters, March 11, 1967.)

"League of Women Voters in New York, Maryland and Pennsylvania through their regional organization, the Susquehanna Inter-League Council, support the Interstate-federal compact for the Susquehanna. Because water resources problems are universally inter-related and interdependent, we feel that river basins should be developed according to a comprehensive plan. And because watersheds follow geographic boundaries rather than political ones, it is our belief that new governmental machinery is necessary to implement comprehensive regional planning. The Susquehanna Compact accomplishes both."

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(New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, June 9, 1966)

"As guardian of the headwaters of the 27,500 square mile watershed, New York's interest in a Susquehanna compact is especially keen. However, wise use of the rich resources of the Susquehanna demands full and equal participation at all levels of government. With creation of an intergovernmental Commission, development and management of the Susquehanna's resources can be effectively coordinated to avoid duplicating efforts and insure that needed works are carried out to the benefit of all the residents of the basin."

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(Printed on the editorial page of Philadelphia's Sunday Bulletin, June 12, 1966.)

"Management of the (Susquehanna) river's future is at the heart of the compact. Long range plans, periodically updated, are to take in water needs, flood control, pollution, power, recreation. The Susquehanna has a long history of usefulness, from the time when colonial enthusiasts wrongly predicted it would be the great commercial river of North America, through many years of logging, down to electricity at Conowingo and shad just below the dam. Care of its future is essential and the proposed compact — much of it copied from the successful interstate compact on the Delaware River Basin — offers the best chance."

(Pennsylvania Gov. Raymond P. Shafer in a speech delivered at a meeting of the Delaware River Basin Commission, Dover, Del., March 2, 1967.)

"When, in late 1961, the four states (New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware) and the Federal Government joined together under this new concept of Federal-Interstate relationships, as embodied in the Delaware River Basin Compact, there were many people who said it wouldn't work. . .If since that time, the Commission had done nothing more than formulate its comprehensive plan and implement its program to the point where it stands today, it would have proved its usefulness and justified its existence on these accomplishments alone.

"It did much more than that, however, for it also handled a number of matters which, under ordinary circumstances, would have required either court or concurrent legislative action by the signatory parties. . .It is now a matter of record that the Commission has successfully met head-on all of the problems which have faced it, including its most severe test, the drought emergency. . .Any doubt that the . . .compact mechanism for administering the water resources of the basin has not proved feasible and effective, should now most certainly be allayed. I know of no river basin in this country where so much progress has been made in so little time!

". . .two of the Delaware River Basin states, New York and Pennsylvania, together with the State of Maryland, have drafted a compact to create a sister commission in the Susquehanna River Basin. . .Because we feel very strongly that the Federal-Interstate mechanism has proved its worth, and because we feel that commissions which must work closely together in adjoining river basins should have a common base, the Susquehanna version is similar to the Delaware Compact."

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(Printed in the Scranton Times, Oct. 22, 1966, as part of a story on a Shafer campaign speech.)

"He (Gov. Raymond P. Shafer) proposed this seven-point program to accomplish this goal:

—Early implementation of the proposed Susquehanna River Basin Compact designed to plan wise future (water) use."